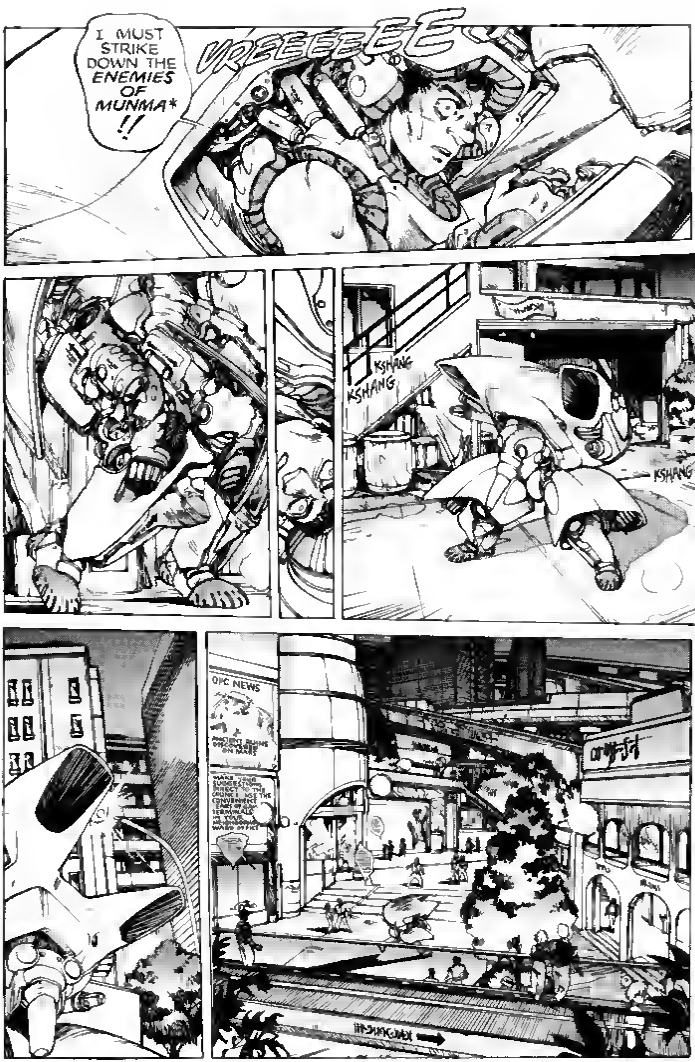
21. DECOY

HAHH!
KRAMP
KRAMP
KRAMP
I MUST FIGHT!
SHOCK


I MUST STRIKE DOWN THE ENEMIES OF MUNMA*!!
VREEEEEE
KSHANG KSHANG
KSHANG
OPC NEWS
MAKE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TODAY! DON'T MISS THE CONVENIENCE AND SECURITY OF HAVING YOUR OPC DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR DOOR!
KSHANG KSHANG

* To wit: the Islamic Republic of Iran (still recovering from debilitating wars of succession), the "Great Devils" (old superpowers), the Kurds, and all forces operating within them. The Munma Holy Republic has political ties with Poseidon. Unconfirmed reports credit Munma with nuclear weapons capability

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!
NO PROBLEM, OFFICER-- KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.
POLICE
CHRIST, A WHOLE DAY OF THIS AND NOTHING TO SHOW! NO ICE, NO WEED, NOTHING! IT'S TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!
THE ONLY ILLEGAL LANDMATES WERE JUST HOT-RODDED SPORTS MODELS...
AND THOSE BIO-ROIDS DON'T DO DRUGS AT ALL.
CAPTAIN!!
PUT THE LAND-MATES ON FULL ALERT! WHAT WAS THAT SOUND?!
SKRANGG
POLICE

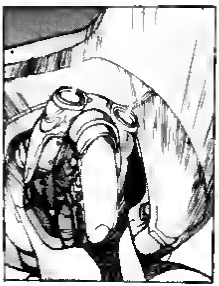
POLICE
USE OF LAND-MATES ON PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES IS A CRIMINAL VIOLATION! FOP YOUR SUIT AND COME OUT SLOWLY!
YOU HAVE TEN SECONDS TO COMPLY !!
COME IN HQ! CHECKPOINT 24 CALLING WITH A CODE M !!
HOLD YOUR FIRE - RICOCHETS COULD END UP IN THE CIVVIE HOUSING!
SET THE MAG-NETIC MINES !!

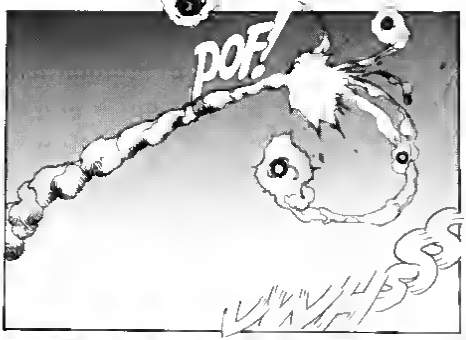
WOOSH
YAAHH!
POLICE
BAM
BAM BAM
BAM

SKRASSH

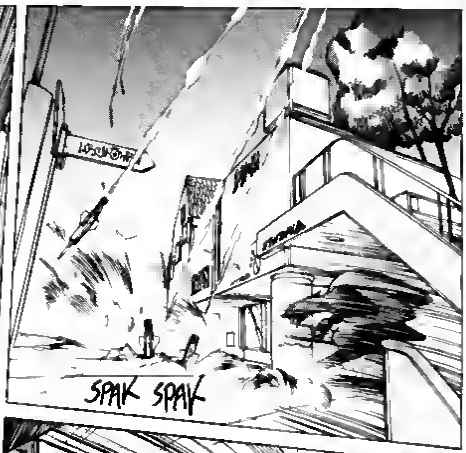
* Search And Strike Armor, an intelligent missile that searches for targets matching pre-programmed criteria. Uses IFF codes to avoid friendly forces.

WHUP WHUP
I'LL SHOW THEM WHAT THE AIR POLICE CAN DO, BY GOD!
MMMM
OKAY, EVERYONE-- BACK TO YOUR STATIONS REACTIVATE THE CHECKPOINT
THE PURSUIT TEAM'S GOT THIS ONE-- LET'S GET READY FOR THE NEXT!
KRANG




POF!

WHOOSSHH


SPAK SPAK

SKSSHH

WHAM
WHOOM
WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP
WHUP WHUP
SHIT!
BAMBAMBAM

VWOOSSH
WHOK
GNRR
YAGHH
CHRIST I DON'T BELIEVE IT!! THAT CRUMMY PIECE OF JUNK EVADED THE CREAM OF THE AIR POLICE?!
AIR UNIT ZERO FOUR TO CHECK-POINT TWENTY FOUR!
TARGET EVADED ALL WEAPONS!
klik
CHECK-POINT TWENTY-FOUR HERE- SAY AGAIN, ZERO FOUR!
THE TARGET EVADED ALL THE SASAM ROUNDS AND IS CURRENTLY FLEEING THROUGH THE UNDERGROUND MALL, BEARING 2-5-0! DISPOSAL TEAM NEEDED! *
ATTEN-TION ALL UNITS! THIS IS CENTRAL HQ!
TRACK THE QUARRY BUT DO NOT, REPEAT, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO APPRE-HEND!
POLICE

* SASAM warheads that miss their targets are designed to become mines. This function is deactivated for use by urban police units. When launched without specific targetting information, SASAM top-attack projectiles prioritize by target size. The missiles are also capable of measuring the force of impact with their target, making a microsecond decision as to which detonation method will best penetrate the armor encountered.

BRUMREOS! DEUNAN!
BRING HIM IN, BUT DON'T KILL HIM-- THAT'S TOP PRIORITY!
WHAT?!
COME ON-- HE'S GOT TO BE A DECOY! IT'S CRAZY TO SEND ESWAT AFTER A DECOY!
GODDAMN IT, DEUNAN! GET YOUR ASS IN GEAR!!
I WANTED TO BE IN ON NABBING THE RING-LEADERS!
WHO'S THAT?!
HMM!
YOU TELL ME-- OF THE SEVEN OF US IN THIS SHIP, ONLY YOU AND I HAVE BEEN TRAINED FOR TWO-MAN OPS
STILL IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE US, DOES IT?!
THEN WHO ELSE Hmm?
BEEP
vrrrrr

WE'LL SEND YOU VIDEO FOOTAGE OF THE TARGET WHILE YOU'RE DESCENDING LOW ALTITUDE TURBULENCE IS PRETTY BAD TODAY, SO WATCH IT
OMPH
YOU'VE GOT A HANDICAP, SO BE CAREFUL, OKAY?
DON'T WORRY
I'LL BE FINE!
EVERY-ONE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU, YOU KNOW
OH, YEAH? NO KIDDING?
BET IT'S ONLY THE GUYS ON MY LEFT WHO ARE WORRIED!
DAMMIT, DEUNAN! I WISH YOU'D QUIT ACTING LIKE THAT. CAN'T YOU GIVE OTHER PEOPLE A LITTLE MORE CREDIT?
I'LL FALL BACK AND GIVE YOU COVER ON YOUR LEFT.
Kchak

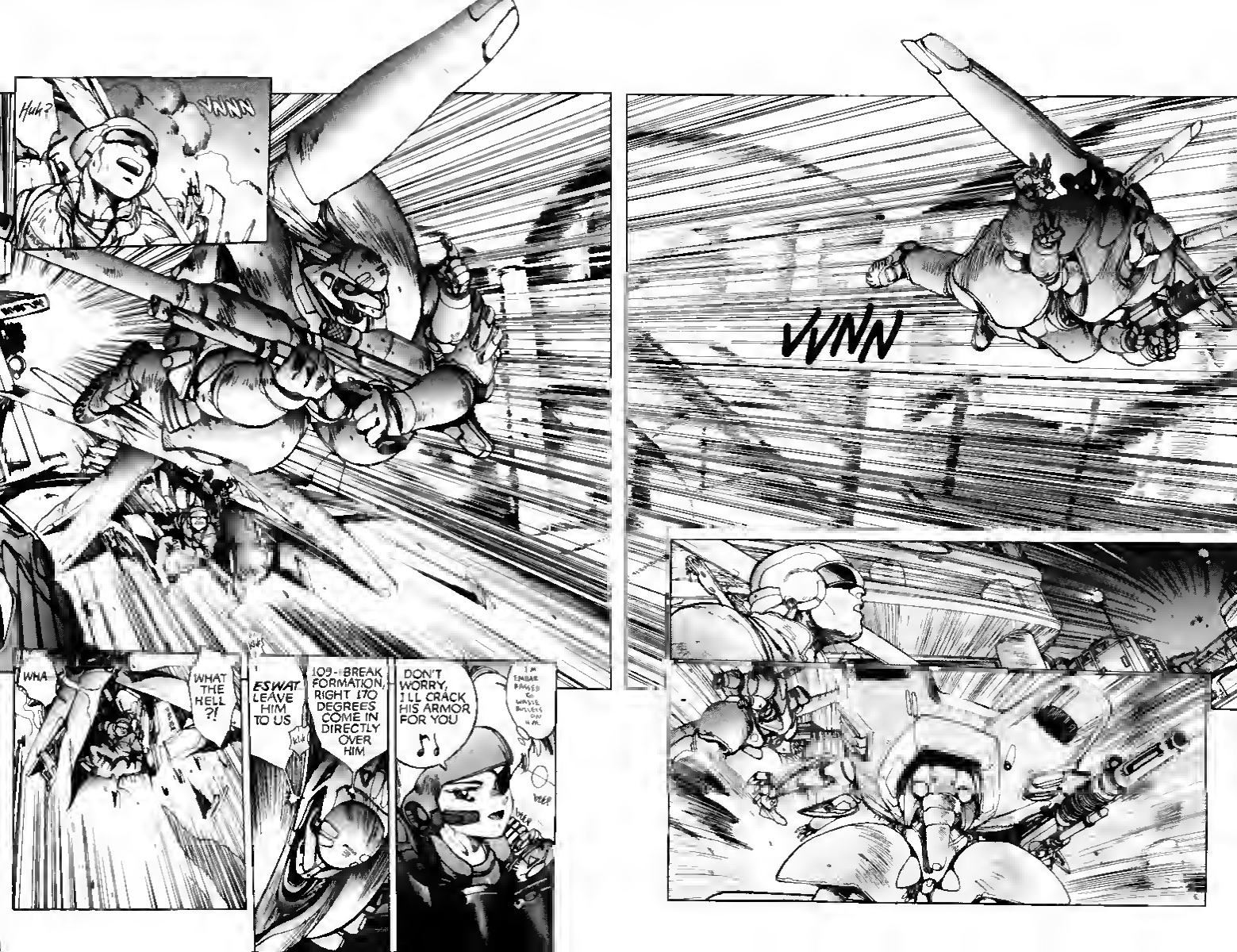
DON'T FORGET TO WE ARE YOUR GUARD!
KANG!
SHALL WE GO?
STARS ARE PRETTY TONIGHT
THEY'LL BE EVEN BRIGHTER IN A FEW MINUTES

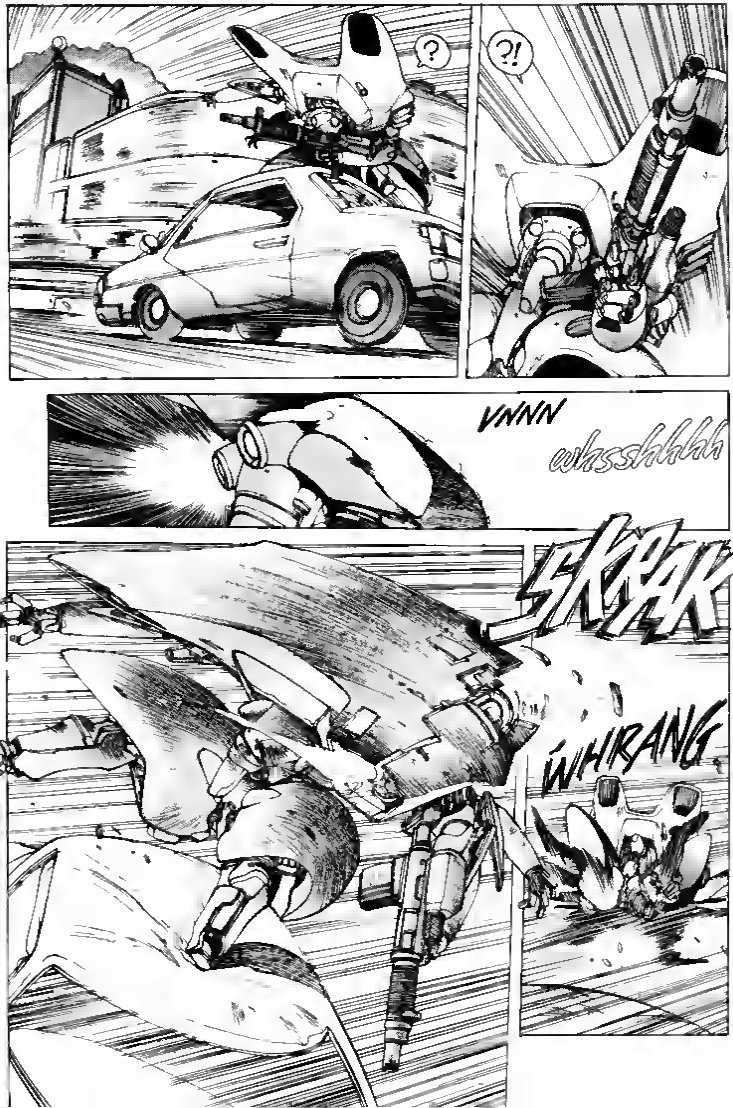
I FIGURED IF I JOINED AEGIS I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO THIS KIND OF CRAP WORK
SHEE IT!
YEAH, ME TOO.
STILL, WE GOT IT BETTER THAN THE PRECINCTS
POLICE
HEY!!
BKOOM
!
VE KILL F

BRRTTT
YAAAHHH!!
STOP!
STOP
!!
BRTTT
click
click
click
click
POLICE

I DID IT, MOM! I FOUND HIM, JUST FOR YOU!!
AIR POLICE 1114
KNNG
BLAM BLAM
FSSHH
SSTHH

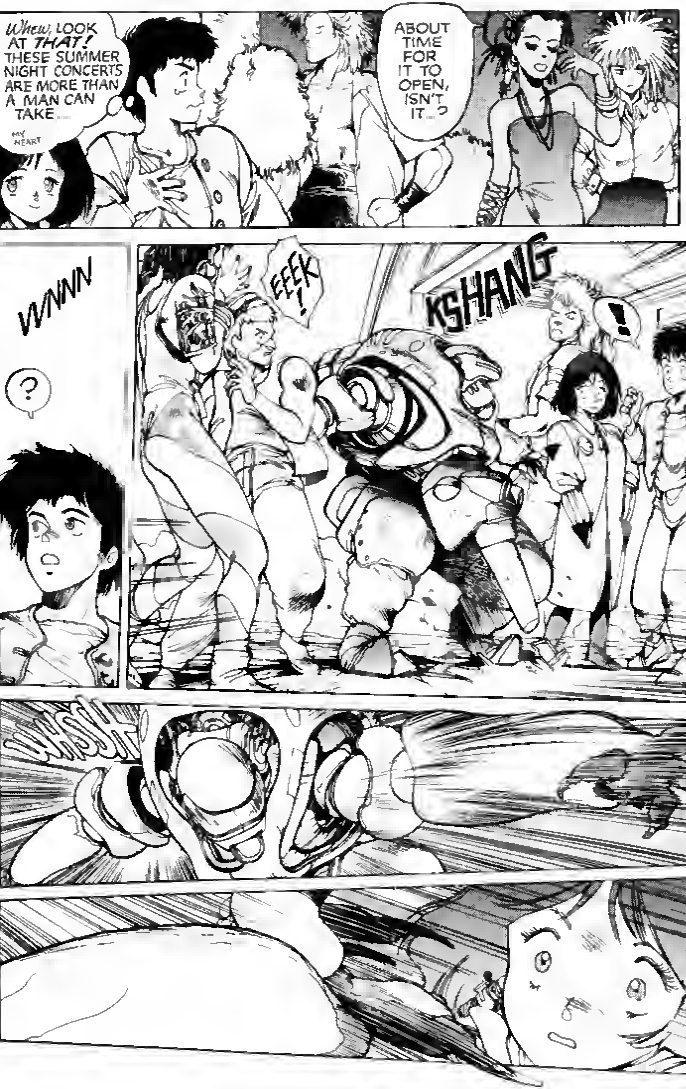
NO!! DON'T SHOOT YOU IDIOT !!
KHAK
BLAM
WHOOM
WHOK
WHA--?!
GYAAA!!
SKRASH
Waaah!
I'M SORRY, COMMANDER ARLESS!
KSSWHAH


Huh?
VNNN
VNN
WHA
WHAT THE HELL ?!
ESWAT LEAVE HIM TO US
109-1 BREAK FORMATION, RIGHT 170 DEGREES COME IN DIRECTLY OVER HIM
DON'T WORRY, I'LL CRACK HIS ARMOR FOR YOU
I'M ENGAGE PASSED ON WHYLE BULLETS ON M.


?
?!
VNNN
whasshhhhh
SKRAK
WHRANG

BRITT
!
CHINK
10-4, BRI.
WHSSHH
DON'T KILL HIM, 109!
HMM?

DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
AN ACCIDENT, MAYBE?
MORE LIKE CONSTRUCTION NOISE, DON'T YOU THINK?
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL-- ALL THESE PEOPLE!
EVERY ONE A WEIRDO
hmm
I DON'T KNOW YOSHI-- AREN'T YOU THE STRANGE ONE HERE THE ONE THAT DOESN'T FIT IN?
EEP
I MEAN YOU CAN'T GO AROUND SAYING EVERYBODY ELSE IS STRANGE! ahem. NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU THE OBSERVER, ATTEMPT TO NEGATIVELY OBJECTIFY YOUR SURROUNDINGS THE OVER RIDING IMPERATIVES OF SUBJECTIVE REALITY MILITATE AGAINST ONE CALLING THE OTHER, uhm. WEIRD
YAUGHH! ENOUGH ALREADY! I WAS WRONG I APOLOGIZE! JEEZ!
YOU JUST SHOULDN'T TALK LIKE THE IMPERIAL AMERICANA PROPAGANDA MEDIA, THAT'S ALL!


Whew, LOOK AT THAT! THESE SUMMER NIGHT CONCERTS ARE MORE THAN A MAN CAN TAKE...
my HEART
ABOUT TIME FOR IT TO OPEN, ISN'T IT...?
WWWW
?
EEEK!
KSHANG
!

SKRANG
AIEEE!!
EEK!!
GCHNK

LEMME GO ASSHEE!!
WAK WAK
THIS GUY IS MY HOSTA--
KCHIK
BAM
SPRAK
KRAKK
HARGH!

THUK
ARGH!!
ELECTROSHOCK
YOU MADE TWO HOLES, JOG! I DIDN'T KNOW WHICH TO USE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I GAVE YOU TWO SO YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO STRETCH FOR A GOOD BITING ANGLE*!
GEE, THANKS.
WELL, SCREW YOU!

* The angle necessary for projectile penetration rather than richochet. Perpendicular is optimum; minimum depends on armor and projectile.

TFT
The Furry Triangles
We Love Beavers